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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.19

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 30th meeting, on 19 November 1993, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.19 without a vote. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/C.1/48/L.53.

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.19, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), to take appropriate action to enable the Group of Experts designated by the United Nations in cooperation with OAU to meet during 1994 at Windhoek and Addis Ababa, in order to finalize the drafting of a treaty on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa, and to submit the text of the treaty to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session under an agenda item entitled, "Final text of a treaty on an African nuclear-weapon-free zone".

B. Relationship of the request to the approved programme of work

3. The above request is related to major programme I, Maintenance of peace and security, disarmament and decolonization, programme 7, Disarmament, of the revised medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 1/ and subsection 3

(Department of Political Affairs), of section 3 (Political Affairs), of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. 2/

C. Activities by which the request would be implemented

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would organize a two-week session in February 1994 at Windhoek, and a five-day session in April/May 1994 at Addis Ababa, for the group of 12 experts. In endorsing recommendation 4 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations 3/ the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 reaffirmed the existing principle that United Nations bodies should meet at their respective established headquarters. In the present case, both meetings should normally have been convened at Addis Ababa, as the regional headquarters of the United Nations; therefore, an exception to this principle would be required in respect of the meeting to be convened at Windhoek.

5. It is the understanding of the Secretary-General that the Office of Conference Services would not be requested to provide conference services directly, but that the regular budget of the United Nations would bear all costs related to the convening of the two sessions, namely, conference-servicing, travel and daily subsistence for the experts and appropriate substantive support services to the Group of Experts.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for 1994-1995

6. The submission of the report to the General Assembly called for by the draft resolution would fall under activity 2 (a), "Parliamentary documentation", of subprogramme 1 of subsection 3B, programme of work "Disarmament", of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. With regard to the substantive servicing of the Group of Experts, it would be necessary to add the following citation under activity 2 (b), "Substantive services" of subprogramme 1 of the programme of work "Disarmament", of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995:

"(v) Group of Experts designated in 1991 by the United Nations in cooperation with OAU within the framework of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/56 A (two sessions in 1994)."

E. Additional requirements at full cost

7. The requirements related to the activities described in paragraphs 4 and 5 above are estimated at full cost as follows.

1. Meeting at Windhoek, Namibia (two weeks, 1994)

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(a)	Conference-servicing costs	
(i)	Rental of conference room	6 000
(ii)	Interpretation (E,F)	12 000
(iii)	Rental of office equipment	1 000
(iv)	Translation (E,F)	1 900
	Subtotal (a)	20 900
(b)	Non-conference-servicing costs	
(i)	Travel and daily subsistence allowance for 12 experts	51 000
(ii)	Travel and daily subsistence allowance for 2 staff members (1 Professional and 1 General Service) from the Centre for Disarmament Affairs	13 900
	Subtotal (b)	64 900
	Total I, (a) and (b)	85 800

2. Meeting at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (five days, 1994)

(a)	Conference-servicing costs	
	Interpretation (E,F)	6 000
(b)	Non-conference-servicing costs	
(i)	Travel and daily subsistence allowance for 12 experts	33 700
(ii)	Travel and daily subsistence allowance for 2 staff members (1 Professional and 1 General Service) from the Centre for Disarmament Affairs	10 100
	Subtotal (b)	43 800
	Total II, (a) and (b)	49 800
	Grand total I and II	135 600

F. Potential for absorption

8. The Centre for Disarmament Affairs of the Department of Political Affairs would make use of its resources under ad hoc expert groups ($84,700), travel of staff ($24,000) and general operating expenses ($26,900) to provide the necessary services to the meetings. No additional appropriation would therefore be required.

G. Indication of additional requirements

9. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.19, no additional requirements would arise under section 3B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. The General Assembly would, however, need to grant an exception to its principle that United Nations bodies should meet at their respective established headquarters regarding the meeting to be convened at Windhoek.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

2/ A/48/6 (Sect. 3).

3/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49), chap. II.A.